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REPORT

DISCUSSION REPORT

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50X1-HUM

PLACE
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SUPPLE
REPORT

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1. In connection with the arrival at Tirana of the new Soviet Military Mission under General Nosenko (fnu), Colonel-General Sver Hoxha has issued "Order No. 39/AL" with instructions for the reorganization of the Albanian armed forces.
2. This reorganization provides for the formation of the following units which will be set up along Soviet lines:
 - a. Four infantry divisions
 - b. Two mountain divisions
 - c. One armored division
 - d. One parachute brigade
 - e. One anti-tank group
3. General Nosenko has assured the Albanian Staff that equipment for the Albanian Army will be provided by the USSR early in 1948 from Soviet depots at Constanta, Rumania.
4. Major Velitshev (fnu) of the Soviet Mission has been instructed to supervise the organization of the armored division, new tanks for which are also to come from Rumania. The question of transport presents the chief difficulty.
5. The center of organization and training of the armored division is in the Lushnja area south of Tirana. The Soviet Mission is setting up tank repair shops in the village of Karounara, near this area, on the road to Berat. There is, in addition, a plan for the construction of an armory and a munitions factory.

Comment: [redacted] the military aid afforded Albania by the Soviet Union is in the nature of a demonstration, and it is doubtful if assistance will continue on a large scale.)

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